

Holland Finance Board

Conference Call

GoToMeeting

Dial in: 224-501-3412

Access Code: 817-726-605

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, June 17, 2020

GoToMeeting participation:

Members present - Clelland Johnson, Andy Harhay, Sharon Ashleigh, Joe Yiznitsky

Members absent - Stacy Stout

Meeting called to order by Clelland Johnson, Chair, at 7:10 PM.

The Chair provided comment on emails received since the June 10, 2020 Public Hearing on the proposed FY21 budget.

- The Collector, Treasurer and Community Center Director indicated that they were not able to gain access to the public hearing video conference on the FY21 budget. Clelland emailed each of them the budget spreadsheet and charts that were reviewed at the Hearing.
- The Treasurer subsequently provided comment on the proposed budget:
 - Sandy Beach Road Improvement loan will be \$25K, but not due until May 18, 2021. (This will be deferred to the Fall STM.)
 - The \$93,108 debt refund from Tantasqua should not have been entered into the budget spreadsheet; the refund will be shown on the recap sheet.

Removing the debt refund from the spreadsheet reduced the amount to be appropriated by the \$93,108. Clelland proposed that we deal with the issue by using additional Free Cash to balance the operating budget and reducing the amount proposed to go to General Stabilization. A motion was made by Andy and 2nd by Joe to approve a revised FY21 budget, incorporating the changes proposed by the Chair: Joe – yes, Andy – yes, Sharon – yes, Clelland – yes; motion passed.

Clelland noted that 59% of the total operating budget is being directed to schools and that the elementary school budget is stepping up significantly each year. Andy indicated that having 50% to 60% of a MA town's budget going to education is the norm, although the stepwise annual increase in recent years of the elementary school budget is concerning.

Motion to adjourn made by Joe, 2nd by Sharon: Joe – yes, Sharon – yes, Clelland – yes, Andy – yes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM (?)

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Tantasqua Regional High School, just prior to the 6:00 PM start of the Annual Town Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Andy Harhay, Acting Secretary